



YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES

Valencia County Reception Assessment Center (RAC)

Submitted By: Roberta Goodson, Juvenile Intervention Specialist

April Success and Barriers

The month started off with the kids out for spring break, this gave me time to meet with some families at their homes, I was also able to work on updating my files. I also had some contact with Los Lunas PD and again provided them with my contact number and let them know they could call me. So I made some positive contact with them. Another positive came meeting with the new Truancy officer from Belen, I will continue to work with him on Belen Truancy issues and hope this will open the door for more contact with the school district and a possible MOU with them again. I also participated in a Career Day at Infinity High school on Friday April 17, Set up a table and provided information on the RAC program.

This month I have also been doing more school visit, to provide more direct contact with students and school staff. As part of that I have made contact with parents to make them aware that I would meet with their child if they approve and would complete the JIFF and also any intake information needed. Also being able to make home visits to parents that are not able to come to the office, that has been important this month. Working with probation on education issues, such as long term suspension for students so late in the year. Looking for ways to have them complete the second half of the school year and get some of their credits. I had one success story of the guardians going to the school and talking with the principal, getting him to allow the student to return, but under very strict rules, zero tolerance to any behavior or rule breaking at school. But the student was allowed back and will complete the semester and get his credits for this half. This is important for our students, because if they do not get those credits and get behind then it's harder to get them to want to return to school and graduate, that's a big problem here in Valencia County.

Current Barrier for me has been the internet, it has limited my ability to complete the JIFF at times because the signal breaks up, so JIFF does not store the information. Then it becomes a time issue with the student or the parent to complete it. Then its hard to get the family back into the office to complete the JIFF and also to make contact with them again to set up an appt to meet and complete.